

# WESTERN WORKER

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## RANCH STRIKERS WIN BIG GAINS Force 25 Cents Per Hr. Minimum Scale; Must Strengthen Union

### L. A. RELIEF WORKERS IN ONE DAY STRIKE AGAINST 50% CUT

4000 At Griffith Park Boo Welfare Official,  
Who Pleads That Workers Take  
Cut Without Fight

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 19.—A one-day strike and huge demonstration at the Plaza on Tuesday, August 23rd, has been called by Relief Workers Protective Union against the 30% cut in relief to the 518,447 destitute receiving aid from the County.

More than 1700 packed the mass meeting called this afternoon by the City Council of the Relief Workers Protective Union and Unemployed United Front Conference, to pledge participation in the one-day strike.

Earl Jensen, superintendent of the County Welfare Bureau, was invited to come but sent his "personal contact" man, Rex Thompson, to tell the workers to be patient and "see how the experiment works." The workers, amid thunderous applause, sent him back to tell his boss the fight for food will go right on. Rank and file members of some unemployed organizations exposed their misleaders, who had offered their help to the Board of Supervisors in breaking the movement, and said they would kick them out and line up with the R. W. P. U.

Sentiment is high for the strike. About 25 locals of the R. W. P. U., with a membership of over 4000, have been organized. The announcement of Supervisor Quinn that 39,000 families will be put on the soup lines to be operated by the Unemployed Cooperative Relief Association units, for which \$60,000 has been appropriated, has raised the fighting spirits of all unemployed workers.

Thursday, Jensen spoke to over 4000 working in Griffith Park, pleading with them not to strike. He was booed down a number of times, when he tried to excuse the cut in relief and his order to cut the work days from 8 to 4 hours, at \$1.60 a day.

### WASH. WORKERS' CONGRESS CALLED IN SEATTLE SEPT. 3-4

State Tour Shows Great Response of Farmers and Workers

SEATTLE, Wash., Aug. 20.—The State Committee of Action has called a Workers Congress of all labor organizations and groups of unorganized workers in the state, to organize a more powerful movement for combatting the attacks of the Roosevelt administration, and for getting Unemployment Insurance at the expense of the government and employers. The Congress is to be held here on Sunday and Monday, Sept. 3 and 4.

Richard Harrington and George Bradley, who have just completed a series of meetings in Pierce County for the Congress, report an excellent response from the workers and farmers to whom they spoke in Olympia, Gray's Harbor, Ilwaco, Kelso, Longview, Centralia, Chehalis and Port Angeles.

The purpose of the Congress is to unite employed and unemployed, of all races, workers and farmers, on a broad fighting program. The call invites the sending of three delegates from each organization—labor union, neighborhood group, farm group or unemployed council.

The State Convention of the United Farmers League in Yakima Aug. 27 and 28 will choose a delegation to represent them at the Congress.

### 1500 COLO. JOBLESS PACK LEGISLATURE, FORCE HEARING

Workers Force Recognition Of United Front Committee

DENVER, Colo., Aug. 17.—1500 militant workers crowded into the state legislative chambers and forced the election of a special legislative committee to investigate the Denver charity racket in co-operation with the United Front. William Dietrich and D. D. Brannan spoke before the Legislature, and Harry I. Cohen before the Senate.

Workers massed in the Legislature cheered both speakers and when a 10-minute recess was called they cheered and sang workers' songs. After a half hour had passed and the group refused to leave, the Legislature was reconvened.

A Daily Worker salesman passed around the floor of the house and the crowd forced legislators to buy papers.

At a special session lasting one hour the newly elected committee met with United Front leaders and agreed to hold open hearings when the U. P. is ready. They admitted taking away automobile license plates from workers on relief is all wrong.

Numerous victims of the charity racket will be called by the United Front.

### UTAH BOSSES TRY TO STARVE MINERS OUT OF UNION

Cut Carbon County Relief in Effort to Pit Workers Against N. M. U.

HELPER, Utah—All relief is to be cut off from the unemployed workers of Carbon County by orders of the state relief director, Henckley, "because many of the residents of the county are members of the National Miners Union and 'anti-government.'" State relief officials declare that the relief will be cut off "until the N. M. U. is ousted from Carbon County."

State officials declare this action is taken because through the "Carbon County Miner" and at mass meetings the National Miners Union has criticized the NRA and the President. This move is intended to split the ranks of the miners and to create sentiment among the unemployed against the Union.

More than two thousand people in Carbon County depend upon relief. One leading United Mine Workers member has boasted that "the National Miners Union will win no more strikes, for the unemployed will not go on the picket lines when their stomachs are empty."

**STATE HELPS BOSSES**  
A member of the legislature has declared that the state government is going to cooperate with the county authorities and that they "will drive the National Miners Union out of Carbon County within a week." The state legislature has passed a bill which practically forbids any activities by any union "which has not had a recognized" (Continued on Page 3, Col. 6)

### Tagus Workers Start Victorious Strike Wave



Despite evictions from their camp

homes (pictured above), agricultural strikers at Tagus Ranch, Tulare, fought through to win large pay increases. Middle photo shows picket lines leaving for ranch. Insert, Pat Chambers, organizer of Cannery and Agricultural Workers Industrial Union, which lead this strike and others throughout California.

Lower: Mike Marvis and Pat Calihan, leaders in the Santa Clara valley pear pickers strike. This photo was taken when they were jailed and beaten in the recent cherry pickers strike. Marvis is again in jail.



### 1,000 HEAR SCOTTSBORO MOTHER AT SEATTLE; WILL TOUR CALIF.

Mother Patterson, Moore and Carter will speak in other Pacific cities.

Their schedule follows:

Eureka	Aug. 26
San Jose	Aug. 27
Petaluma	Aug. 29
Sacramento	Aug. 31
(At L. S. T. Arena)	
Stockton	Sept. 2
San Mateo	Sept. 3
San Francisco	Sept. 5
(Mass Meeting Banquet)	
San Francisco	Sept. 6
Oakland	Sept. 7

Berkeley Sept. 8  
Richmond Sept. 9  
San Jose Sept. 10  
Watsonville Sept. 12  
Santa Cruz Sept. 14  
Monterey Sept. 15  
Fresno Sept. 16

SEATTLE, Wash., Aug. 16.—One thousand workers jammed the Moose Hall, 8th and Union, last night to hear Mother Patterson and Richard Moore speak in defense of the Scottsboro Negro boys. The meeting, characterized (Continued on Page 3, Col. 5)

### Oxnard Growers Try Terror to Force Strikers into Fake Union; Grape Pickers Present Demands

Tagus Ranch Workers Force Bosses To Negotiate With Fighting Union; Almost All Joined

Filipino and Mexican Misleaders Try To Split Ranks But Fail To Break Solidarity of Strikers

### TAGUS RANCH WORKERS FIRST TO WIN RAISE

Bosses Forced To Meet With Fighting Union

TULARE, Aug. 20.—The Tagus ranch strikers are back to work granted 25c per hour, with the agreement that there will be no discrimination in the hiring of workers.

The negotiations were carried through with a committee of strikers headed by Pat Chambers, the leader. Only the persistence and militancy of the workers won the big increase over the 15-cent rate which prevailed previously. This struggle, being the first of the many strikes taking place, played an important role in establishing the 25 cents minimum rate now being granted to many thousands of workers.

Practically all the 700 workers are now in the Agricultural Workers Industrial Union, and are determined to be on guard against the slightest attempt to take away any of the gains.

A considerable group of active strikers have already joined the Communist Party Unit at Tulare, having learned through experience that this is the Party that leads in their interest.

### 25-Cent Rate Is Only Start, Says Lambert of TUUL

Frank MacDonald, State Labor Commissioner, declared that the 25 cents per hour rate for agricultural workers "has been recognized and established as equitable." He and Timothy Reardon, director of the Department of Industrial Relations, are kept jumping from one strike region to another, settling matters as favorable as possible for the growers.

But Walter Lambert, District Organizer of the Trade Union Unity League, just back from the strike field, declared that although the 25-cent rate is a victory amounting in cases to as much as 100% increase, it is far from adequate yet, and is only a start in the fight for a living wage, which the agricultural union is leading.

### 3000 OXNARD WORKERS PROTEST POLICE ATTACK

Cheer Agricultural Workers Union; Ranks Solid

BULLETIN

OXNARD, Aug. 20.—Twenty more strikers were arrested, many being pulled out of their homes without a warrant. Some were beaten up and urged by the police to join the scabbing organization formed by the Chamber of Commerce and the Mayor. All the property and treasury of the Agricultural Workers Industrial Union was confiscated.

OXNARD, Aug. 18.—Three thousand workers demonstrated last night to protest the action of the (Continued on Page 3, Col. 2)

### CALPACK STRIKERS WIN 25C PER HOUR BUT NEED UNION

MERCED, Aug. 20.—The workers striking at the California Packing Corporation ranches returned to work, granted an increase to 25 cents per hour from the previous 17½ cents, and a nine-hour day. Board will remain the same, at 75 cents per day.

The strike was called off by the small strike committee, and the workers were not consulted. The leaders, who acted in secret, announced that the workers, according to the agreement with the company, are given permission to form an organization that will function as a company union. This is obviously in order to prevent the organization of the Agricultural Workers Industrial Union. That the misleaders are controlled by the corporation is also clear from the fact that scabs are given preference in hiring. The workers are enraged at this.

The A. W. I. U. is recruiting many members and a local will be launched in a few days.

### 1000 IN FRESNO REGION STRIKE; WIN INCREASES

24-Hour Struggle in Sympathy With Tagus Workers Wins 25c Hour

FRESNO, Calif., Aug. 21.—More than one thousand agricultural workers, coming out in sympathy strike with the Tagus ranch strikers, have won pay increases to 25c an hour. In many cases this was a 100% increase.

The strike, originally called for Friday morning to last 24 hours involved about 75 ranches around Reedley, Parlier, Sanger, Selma and Dinuba. Only a half dozen ranches have not yet settled for the new higher wage.

The demands put forward by the workers were for 30c an hour, 5c a box for cutting peaches, and in grape picking 2c a tray for Thompson seedless and 2½c and up for muscats. Recognition of the Cannery and Agricultural Workers Industrial Union and no discrimination against strikers were demanded. If the demands are not met for the grape picking a strike will be called affecting 5000 in this region.

As a result of the victories scored so far, hundreds of workers are flocking into the C. and A. W. I. U. and a rush order of membership books is required. Sunday night more than 400 at a mass meeting at Reedley heard Walter Lambert, state organizer of the Trade Union Unity League, and other leaders speak.

### 1200 PEAR WORKERS RETURN WITH RAISE; INJUNCTION FAILED

Strike Forced Blue Eagle Growers To Pay Minimum

SAN JOSE, Aug. 20.—Despite the injunction against strike activity and arrests of six leaders, the 1200 pear strikers under the leadership of the Agricultural Workers Industrial Union, have returned to work at 25 cents per hour. This is an increase of from 5 to 7½ cents per hour.

A large part of the strikers have already joined the union, and the rest are expected to follow within the next few days. The NRA was exposed in the struggle as many of the growers, although flying pay the minimum.

The prestige of the Communist Blue Eagle emblem, refused to Party among the workers has increased tremendously, and many have already joined.

### COMMUNIST IN STRIKE FIELDS!

Comrades in the fields! Don't lose this opportunity to build the Party in the agricultural regions! NOW IS THE TIME TO DO IT! Appeal to the workers to join the Party that leads in the fight for a living wage.

## Build the Union, and the Party on the Ranches

### SEND RELIEF TO STRIKERS!

While some of the agricultural workers have returned to work with increased wages, thousands are still on strike in various fields. Thousands more are coming out.

Those workers face immediate starvation as soon as they walk off the fields. They depend on strike relief from you! It is your fight as well as theirs. They are dealing a blow to starvation wages.

Get your organization to arrange the raising of relief in the quickest possible manner.

Rush all food and funds to the following centers:

SAN JOSE—81 Post Street.  
SAN FRANCISCO—3470 19th Street, or 830 Market Street.  
SAN DIEGO—647 7th Avenue.  
SACRAMENTO—429 J Street.  
LOS ANGELES—127 S. Broadway, Room 317.  
WORKERS INTERNATIONAL RELIEF.

provided in the textile code, which is \$12 and \$13. In fact, when the textile scale was adopted there was a storm of protests from all sides. Yet if \$13.00 was set for the agricultural workers it would mean a 100% increase in most cases.

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 3)

## "Recovery" Signs Seen by the News

It is very amusing to note how the San Francisco News performs political gymnastics in an effort to explain away the opposition to the NRA. The latest is an editorial under the title, "An Epidemic of Strikes," in which the learned editorial writer, George West, wants to set at ease such as are disturbed by the strike wave in California. Says the News:

Meanwhile let us take a grain of comfort. Experience proves that strikes come on a rising market and may even in this sense be regarded as a harbinger of good times. It is only when men and women feel that the tide has turned and that better days are ahead that they give vent to the restlessness and dissatisfaction that have been suppressed during the more hopeless period preceding. Our current strikes are in part at least a demonstration of confidence in the New Deal and of a restless eagerness to make it come true without further delay.

The News simply wants to explain away the very embarrassing position that the Roosevelt administration finds itself in, because of the growing revolt against the "New Deal." On the very week that Roosevelt's magic wand "abolishes" strikes, the rude agricultural workers start the biggest strike the industry yet saw. This is called a "demonstration of confidence in the New Deal."

The News' editor lies when he says that strikes come on a rising market. Strikes come when the high cost of living and wage cuts reduce the purchasing power of the workers. Following the News logic Roosevelt should become a strike leader, and prosperity would be around the corner. But that is not the NRA policy. Through the NRA the administration hopes to illegalize strikes.

That is why the Pennsylvania mine strike and many others have virtually created a crisis in the entire scheme. Roosevelt admitted that the strikes hit at the very foundation of the "recovery" plan. But if the News considers strikes a sign of recovery, very well, let us have some more of such signs.

## NATIONAL GUARD RECRUIT TELLS OF ROTTEN CONDITION

More Military Practice Forced On N. G. Men

THE NATIONAL GUARD CAMP, SAN LOUIS OBISPO, Calif., July 20.—We rise at five in the morning and from then till noon there is continuous drill of thousands of men. Our meals, such as they are, are rushed through so that we can fall in and march off to the hills with the other companies, accompanied by bands playing patriotic airs. Every day is another rehearsal of the war scene, trench tools, packs, guns, so heavy that we sweat under their weight. Sometimes we march for miles and miles. Many drop down exhausted and are stigmatized as "gold bricks" by the hard-boiled N. G. O's. The hospital is full of men who have broken down under the strain. Their only remedy is a C. C. pill for constipation. Then they are sent out and more take their place. The food is the inevitable beans and slop and this is limited. This year is even harder than last—more drills and especially more combat practice. Yesterday we had extend order drill, the manner in which troops go in to battle. One whole regiment, about one thousand men, took part in this, and it was witnessed by several officers of the U. S. regular army, and a German major as well as the National Guard officers.

All day long we can hear the sounds of shooting and the roar of aeroplanes.

Most of the Guardsmen are very young and the majority of them have been trained in the ROTC. Although they are mostly very poor (I am speaking, of course, of the rank and file) they still think that the U. S. army is their army. This conception is played up on all occasions by the officers. They hear continually of their rights and many really believe that they have such a thing.

But, of course, there are continual complaints about the food and the hard training.

—National Guardsman.

# Chico, San Diego Strikers Score Increases

## CHICO PEACH CUTTERS WIN MAIN DEMANDS OF STRIKE

Five Pickets Arrested; C. & A. W. I. U. Grows.

CHICO, Calif., Aug. 17.—The strike of 200 workers from the Bidwell sheds, led by the Cannery and Agricultural Workers Union, has won 10c a box for cutting cling peaches instead of the 5c previously paid, an 8-hour day, child labor laws to be enforced, first aid kit provided, and sanitary conditions in the plant.

The strike, called at the Bidwell yards, resulted in the work being removed to the Dutra yards. Refusal of the boss to meet the demands was answered by continued picketing, at the Dutra yards. Five strikers were arrested for stopping a scab from going to work, and held on framed charges of assault and vagrancy. They were Ira Ruley, Harry Lewis, George Yamamoto, John Funker and Joseph Oliver. All are now out on bail, with trial for Funker, Lewis and Ruley set for August 23 and for Yamamoto and Oliver for August 25. Immigration officers, brought up to deport Yamamoto and Funker, left when they found the workers were American citizens.

At the height of the picketing, Sheriff Toland brought out 75 deputies and Legionnaires armed with pick handles and sawed-off shotguns to break up the picket line. At the same time he called to Gov. Rolph for help from the militia (Company G of Chico, National Guards).

As a result of the strike the Cannery and Agricultural Workers Industrial Union has gained 49 members in Chico, 10 in Hamilton and 20 in Gridley. The union is holding a meeting in Gridley tomorrow night.

## ORGANIZATION URGED AS RELIEF IS CUT IN IDAHO TOWN

COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho, Aug. 19.—After cutting about 1000 off the relief list of 1600, the relief administrator announces relief is to be reduced for those remaining.

In November, 1932, we got 5½ days work on the road at \$2.60 a day. In December, they cut us to 3 days. In March they paid us in checks on defunct banks. Then they posted a notice on the door: "County Relief Work Goes Off Cash Basis." Many have been herded off into the C. C. C. camps.

The sawmills are running, the owners preparing finished lumber in anticipation of a market. Many workers thought the activity was to beat the wage scale "Roosevelt was forcing industries to adopt," but now the wage scale is out, the code has been submitted and the wages are even lower than the present scale!

In the past we won many struggles. Now we must organize stronger and fight off the future attacks of the Roosevelt government.

—Worker Correspondent.

## I. L. D. Organizer Defends Worker in Sacramento Court

SACRAMENTO, Aug. 17.—The fine working class defense put up by Elaine Black, organizer for the International Labor Defense, for Northern California, won freedom Monday for W. H. Nason, unemployed worker arrested for vagrancy here July 27.

Not knowing how to defend himself, he appealed to the I. L. D. Comrade Black subpoenaed the two heads of the Community Chest and the County Relief, bringing out in their testimony the fact that the Community Chest had closed down its soup line while the Salvation Army turned Nason down because he classed himself an Atheist. In eight months, he had only been given six meals by the county. When it was proven, in addition to this, that Nason was continually seeking work, the jury quickly brought in a verdict of "Not Guilty."

Impressed with the way the class struggle was brought into the case instead of voting him guilty of begging on the street, one of the women jurors gave Nason a job afterwards.

The trial was an excellent example to the workers, present on how to conduct workers self-defense.

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## The Western Worker in the Strike Fields



Bob Nelson, young strike leader in San Jose, reading to group of pear pickers news of victories led by Cannery and Agricultural Workers Industrial Union when capitalist press was printing lies to break the strikes. Nelson was later arrested for fighting injunction against picketing.

## FAMILIES POISONED IN L. A. ON 12-YEAR OLD CHARITY FOOD

Workers To Protest By 1-Day Strike Tuesday

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 20.—Two families of workers were seriously poisoned by rotten fish distributed by the county charities in the weekly grocery orders. The eight were given first aid at the Georgia Street Hospital and later taken to the General Hospital.

Committees of the Relief Workers Protective Union and the Unemployed Council have repeatedly brought to the charity racketeers labels of canned fish and meat, which were packed over 12 years ago and told about the rotten oranges and vegetables which they received. The manager of the buying department answered that only good quality food is bought and that he would not be afraid to use the same food in his own house.

## Strike Leaders Of Watsonville Win Freedom

WATSONVILLE, Calif., Aug. 10.—All the workers arrested in the strike of lettuce field workers here last May have finally been freed, as a result of the long, bitter fight of the International Labor Defense, when sentences of 100 days each on John Wright, M. Remsen and Alfredo Mansano were reversed for prejudice and misconduct of Judge Taylor.

Declared "Guilty" by a hand-picked jury of business employers and their representatives, the cases were appealed. In fighting to make the verdict stand, Prosecutor McCarthy argued that though the defendants had broken no law, their strike was against the interests of the lettuce growers.

Attorney Geo. Anderson, for the I. L. D. fought the cases until the reversal was won. Several of the workers were in jail for two months because of the high bail.

## VET TELLS OF RED TAPE, WORK, FOR ONE POOR MEAL

SAN DIEGO, Calif., Aug. 9.—Recently I was, in Modesto. I was broke and hungry and went to the veterans' hall to get something to eat. There they said the chief of police had the funds for the vets. The chief sent me to the fire department, and from there I was sent back to the veterans' hall, and from there I was sent to a restaurant said to be in sympathy with the vets.

I worked for one hour and 50 minutes at this restaurant for two sandwiches, two cups of coffee and a spoonful of potatoes. If that wasn't passing the buck I don't know what is. I hope all the servicemen will join the W. E. S. L. and fight Roosevelt's lousy starvation act.

—A War Veteran.

## MANY IN TOMATO FIELDS WIN RAISE; STRIKE STILL ON

Scabs Taken Off Fields That Refuse Pay of \$2.00 Per 8-Hour Day

SAN DIEGO, Aug. 17.—The eleventh day of the strike of nearly 400 tomato pickers in Vista and San Luis Rey valleys found important pay increases gained. Where formerly \$1.50 for 9 hours was paid by American growers, many have raised to from \$2 to \$3.50 for 8 hours, and workers have been permitted by the Cannery and Agricultural Workers Industrial Union to return at these prices. Pay had previously been 16½¢ an hour.

The Japanese growers have so far made no increases, but the union reports prospects are bright for a \$2 minimum for all fields by Sept. 1st. The strikers are determined to stay out until they win, and committees are busy getting relief and money. Since the strike 50 new members have joined the union.

Today women joined the men on the picket lines to pull out 52 scabs who got into the fields yesterday. Fifteen of the scabs quit. Relays of cars have kept the picket line going 24 hours a day, covering the four roads leading into the strike area. Last Thursday three cars were stopped, turned around and paraded back to Oceanside, an action that has been repeated dozens of times.

When the food ran out two days ago, strikers demanded and got flour from the Red Cross at Vista. The Community Chest at Carlsbad refused, telling the committee nothing would be given out while the strike lasted.

Stanley Hancock, strike leader, arrested on Aug. 9, on Aug. 13 and again on Aug. 14, is out on bail and back in strike activity. Trial on the first charge, of "disturbing the peace," will take place in Vista Aug. 21. Trial on the second charge, "trespass," will be Aug. 24. The third arrest was for "violating a suspended sentence," given as a result of a water shut-off fight last spring.

DON'T THROW THIS COPY AWAY. PASS IT TO A FELLOW WORKER.

# HOW THE NRA WORKS

## 15% WAGE RAISE BUT 40% RAISE ON BOARD FOR LOGGERS

Lumber Workers Show Speed-Up Increases With Latest Scheme

TIDEWATER CAMP, ASTORIA, Ore., Aug. 20.—The bell rings. It is twenty minutes to six in the morning. Loggers jump up, wash, and line up for the cook house. Six o'clock rings and we rush into the cook house. Hurry! Hurry! If you don't, you'll miss the "Mulligan car," which is ready to go at 6:20. Away we rattle, closely knotted with a dozen boxes of dynamite. At the end of the line we walk over a hill, another hill, and then a third hill. The whistle blows and we are at work. "A little more speed there, fellow, or you may see the time-keeper and go 'home!'"

Half an hour for lunch and right back at it again. Hurry! At four o'clock the whistle blows again and we walk wearily back over the three hills. Usually its ten minutes to five before we reach camp. But all this time we put in coming and going doesn't worry the company—they don't pay for it. And we have a cook who saves money for the company for the three years he's been "cooking for us."

In the evening we hang around the bunkhouse and read about how soon we are to get the new code, etc. We turn in early, for seldom is there any light in the bunkhouses to read at night.

Our wages are: Timber fallers and buckers, 18-19¢ a bushel; rigging men \$3.20 for 8 hours; section men \$2.60; donkey engineers \$4.50-\$5 a day.

Board is \$1 a day, \$2 a month goes for hospital, and \$3 a month for your bunk. Six men to the house, so the company makes \$18 a month on each bunkhouse.

Yes, we had a 15% raise last month, but the prices went up 40%.

Such conditions will prevail unless we organize and fight. The National Lumber Workers Union is organizing in the woods just for that purpose. Join it!

—A Logger.

## No Code For Workers in Field

HOPPER RANCH, PARLIER, Calif.—157 workers on this ranch went on strike the first week of August, demanding 30¢ an hour, the same scale supposed to be set by the code for the cannery workers.

The ranch owner called the sheriff, who told the workers the NRA doesn't apply to them, and that he would arrest them if they did not go back to work at the 17½¢ offered. (In the Richmond-Chase cannery, where the code does apply, the workers are not paid that.) Unorganized, the workers went back, and the first steps to organize were begun.

## L. A. Dept. Store Cuts Wages By NRA

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 19.—The Broadway, one of the largest department stores, with several thousand employees in all departments, has added 400 workers to its departments. But the addition was accomplished by a vicious 16 2/3% wage cut, workers being reduced from \$18 to \$15 a week. This, with inflation prices, means a real cut of 25%.

The capitalist press reports 500 complaints pouring in daily against firms violating the NRA code.

## S. F. Food Market Joins Blue Eagle Wage-Cutters

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 21.—The Crystal Palace Market, under the emblem of the Blue Eagle, succeeded in putting over a wage-cut.

Claiming that it was impossible to come in under the blanket code of 40 hours and \$15 they extended hours to 48, and maintain the minimum. However, the workers are forced to work on an average of 57 hours and sometimes more. Extra help, which was supposed to get 40¢ an hour, work 10 and 12 hours for \$2.50, in most cases. Most of the workers who received over \$15 a week have been cut to that amount and very few who received less than \$15 received a raise.

## 'SOCIALISTS' OFFER SELVES TO BREAK PEACH STRIKE

TULARE, Aug. 18.—The Socialist Party fakers are ever on the lookout for a chance to offer their "services." Through some individual named A. A. Clarke, claiming to be from the NRA the following telegram was sent to Pat Chambers, leader of the Tagus Ranch strikers:

SEND WIRE TONIGHT MR. CLARKE, STITT WILSON AND DEMPSTER WILL REPRESENT YOU AT CONFERENCE WITHOUT PAY.

A. A. CLARKE (NRA), 1745 HIGHLAND PLACE, BERKELEY, CALIF.

Pat Chambers promptly replied that the workers can represent themselves. The wire proves that when the bosses want to avoid recognition to a workers committee, they will, under the pretext of giving the right of collective bargaining select these fakers, advertise them as the workers representatives and put through a sellout. The Socialists are of course pleased at being accorded such recognition. But the workers refused to take these fakers, negotiated themselves and won a big increase.

## Gates Rubber Lays Off 250 in Denver

DENVER, Colo., Aug. 17.—Gates Rubber Co., in spite of its proud ownership of the blue culture, is cooperating with the recovery program by laying off 250 workers, cutting the hours to 35 a week and increasing pay for a very few workers by 2 cents an hour.

When the recovery bill was passed this notorious scab concern, infamous for its hatred of the organized workers, and an efficient spy system to see that no Reds came into the plant, took on many workers at low wages, made up a large reserve supply of tires, got the blue bird, and proceeded to show its patriotism by the layoff.

## STANDARD OIL AT RICHMOND "HELPS OUT"—BY SPEEDUP

Old Men Fired As Being Too Slow

RICHMOND, Calif., Aug. 1.—I am writing to let you know of the way bighearted Kingsbury of the Standard Oil of California is working the men here.

Some of the men are forced to work 12 hours straight time; then they make them take time off. They won't even let the men take out time to eat sometimes. I know fellows who have more than 130 hours overtime coming. One man has had only two days off in the last three months. Then they say, "We are helping out." Four days a week is what they are supposed to work in the boiler shop.

To hold a job down you have to be a ballplayer. One young short-stop brought the boss so much gain, the boss is praising him highly now.

From the Mechanical Superintendent down, if you want to hold your job, you have to give wild parties and let the boss maul your wife. A white back a young fellow committed suicide because a boss broke up his home.

They are firing lots of the old men because they become 50 years old. It sure would be grand if we could get the National Oil Workers Union organizing in the Richmond refinery.

—Oil Worker.

## Boosts Prices, Not Pay

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 19.—Th Rosslyn Coffee Shop, at 5th street, between Main and Broadway, has boosted its prices from 10% to 20%, but its employees have received no wage increase. There is a big reduction in the quantity of food served at the higher prices. To the bosses, NRA means greater opportunities to rob workers and consumers.

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# FOREIGN NEWS BRIEFS

## 200 More Kuomintang Army Officers Die

CHANGHAI, Aug. 21.—More than 200 Kuomintang army officers were killed today when two coaches of a train taking them to the front to fight the Chinese Red Army were derailed and plunged into the Siao River. The train was enroute to the Kiangsi front, with 500 officers who had just finished a special course in mountain fighting tactics at a Kuomintang Army School at Kuling.

## Red Army Loses City But Inflicts Heavy Losses

AMOY, China, Aug. 16.—Gen. Tsai, commander of the 19th Route Army, is reported to have recaptured Lungyen, important city near Amoy, taken by the Communists in the recent sweep to the sea. Tsai's losses were reported to be exceptionally heavy.

Amoy is filled with refugees, and there is a steady stream of wounded into the city. In the harbor is the American gunboat Fulton and a French gunboat.

## Britain Strengthens West Indies Position

LONDON, Aug. 16.—A great colony is planned by Great Britain in the West Indies by uniting all possessions including the Windward and Leeward islands and even Trinidad and Tobago, under one governor. This is an important step to strengthening British positions in the West Indies, in war preparations against the U. S.

## 5,000 in Porto Rico Strike

SAN JUAN, Porto Rico.—The strike of 5,000 in the tobacco industry is spreading and reaching other industries. Many of the strikers are women.

## Heavy French Losses in Morocco

PARIS, Aug. 18.—Two hundred and fifty French troops are reported to have been killed, in operations against the natives in Morocco. The insurgent movement is reported on the increase and is at present engaging more than 25,000 of the imperialist troops. The losses are reported to be greater than any in the more than 25 expeditions carried through by the French.

## British Pave Way to Iraq Intervention

BAGDAD, Iraq, Aug. 18.—A serious struggle is again developing in the Near East, as complications arose over the killing of more than 600 Christian Assyrians, by soldiers of King Faisal, and the deportation of Mar Shimun, British agent, who was leading a revolt of Assyrians against the Iraq government. The British government is already making protests in preparation to intervention, to once more regain control over Iraq and the oil fields, which was once under its mandate. Mar Shimun was immediately given asylum on the British island, Cyprus.

## Plenty Machines For Huge USSR Harvest

MOSCOW, USSR.—A report addressed to the leaders of the Soviet Government, from the Agricultural Machinery Syndicate, states that there will be no shortage of machinery for harvesting the present crop, the greatest in the history of the country.

Striking increases in production of those machines have been recorded during the first six months this year as compared with last. The production of harvester combines was 7756 a 67.6% increase; mowing machines 36,800, a 182½% increase, rakes 32,213, a 154.3% increase, simple harvesting machines 25,066, threshing machines 5,064, binders 7,805, etc.

## Sweeping Amnesty in U. S. S. R.

MOSCOW, USSR.—The Soviet government in a sweeping amnesty has released 12,484 prisoners and reduced the sentences of about 60,000 others. This is as a result of the successful completion of the White to Baltic Sea Canal, upon which many of these were engaged. The release of the prisoners is due mainly to many having been reformed through the Soviet educational prison system; due to the great harvest success, proving that the sabotage work of kulaks is becoming insignificant; and the powerful position of the Soviet government by its peace policy, and ability to show that while in capitalist countries, prisons are occupied beyond capacity, in the Soviet Union, they are diminishing.

# U. S. CONGRESS AGAINST WAR POSTPONED TO SEPTEMBER 29

Drive To Be Intensified; Socialist Party Leaders Withdraw Hoping To Disorganize United Move

NEW YORK, Aug. 18.—The U. S. Congress Against War, which was sponsored by Theodore Dreiser, Upton Sinclair and Sherwood Anderson, and now backed by scores of national and local organizations throughout the country, has been postponed to September 29-30 and Oct. 1. This step is in order to give many parts of the country an opportunity for intensifying the campaign, to make the Congress even greater than originally planned.

The Socialist Party was one of the organizations to back the call for the Congress, but submitted a withdrawal at the last meeting of the Arrangements Committee. Its representatives claimed that "they were unjustly attacked in the Daily Worker." The Committee sent an appeal to the Socialist Party executive, that the decision be reconsidered. Among those signing the appeal is Roger Baldwin. The Socialist Party was informed that the united front does not bar any organization within it from expressing its own program. But the Socialist Party hastened to make public its withdrawal, and instructing its branches to do likewise.

The Arrangements Committee is appealing to all organizations not to be influenced by the action of the S. P., but to continue in the drive for making the Congress into a huge anti-war expression uniting all workers organizations.

Larsky is a member of the Socialist Party local at Lynwood, Calif. Although the Socialist Party Executive Committee tabled the motion to take part in the election of the delegate, Larsky attended against the will of the reactionary leaders, and reported that would the vote be taken on participation, it would have shown a strong opposition within the leading body of the S. P. The anti-war committee adopted by unanimous vote the motion to protest against the action to the S. P. leaders.

## S. P. MEMBERS GOES TO ANTI-WAR MEET DESPITE LEADERS

Elected From Southern California Committee

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 16.—The United Committee for Struggle Against War, which unites many workers organizations, at its meeting last night, elected J. N. Larsky, as the delegate to the U. S. Congress Against War, which will take place on Sept. 1-4 at New York. For financial reasons only one delegate could be elected from the Southern California committee. More will go directly from other organizations.

## SEEKING RED!

"I settled the great California fruit strike," crows Tim Reardon, pushing out his big belly in pride as he returned to Sacramento from Tulare.

Practically anyone can "settle" a strike—with a 67% wage increase!

But the point interesting the workers is who won the strike. And that's why they are not cheering Reardon, but joining the Cannery and Agricultural Workers Industrial Union!

A worker released from the penitentiary was hired as "wet sander" (one of the hardest jobs), at the Ford plant in Richmond, Calif. He worked two days and quit. "Where are you going?" one of the men asked. "Straight back to the penitentiary!"

—A Ford Worker.

The NRA ballyhoo no longer speaks of putting millions to work by Labor Day. The phrase is now, "After Labor Day."

But how long after?

In fact, do they even mean Labor Day this year?

Says Paul Scharrenberg, about the California A. F. of L. Convention: "Never in the history of the California labor movement was there more urgent need to deliberate on the many problems confronting us." And deliberate is as far as they go—usually.

But this year they'll do more. The convention will not adjourn until the Scharrenbergs put up their strongest fight for the Blue Eagle—which doesn't strike for the workers!

Strikes, the Labor Clarion declares, are to "be a weapon for securing attention and getting arbitration." We always thought workers struck for better wages and conditions.

Scharrenberg, in his convention ballyhoo, continues: "Don't let others do your planning for you."

And why else is he going to the convention?

And why else do the A. F. of L. officials approve the arbitration board idea, the perfect machinery for sellouts?

DID YOU KNOW:

That delegates to the A. F. of L. state convention get \$125 expenses? That the "fighting" officials of the International Longshoremen's Association, in a letter to the S. F. Labor Council, pledging its support to Wall Street's NRA? The letter was, of course, filed, not discussed. That the mule of a farmer plowing under a third of his cotton baled so insistently that he was put back in the stable. Even a mule knows better.

## Hammond Workers Join A. F. of L. As TUUL Not On Job

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—The Hammond Lumber Company recently sent a special letter to its employees notifying them that it is falling in line with the NRA. The answer of the men, however—at least about 50 per cent of them—has been to join the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners. And they expect to be signed up 100 per cent in the B. of C. and J. within two weeks!

But wouldn't it be much better if the Trade Union Unity League had the Hammond men signed up instead of the B. of C. and J.? The men are all anxious for organization and talk of striking, or going to the government through the NRA and making the company raise their pay.

The B. of C. and J. has promised at least \$1 an hour minimum for millmen, if they all join; but so far Hammond's have said they can all go to hell—that Hammond's will run its business without outside help.

The TUUL should be on the job. Let's have some action!

—Worker Correspondent.

## LOS ANGELES WORKERS!

The Season's Most Unusual Event!  
LITTLE CREEK CANYON, Stockton Flat Camp  
"THE OUTDOORIUM"  
A Two-Day Festival for Workers  
Sunday—Sept. 3 and 4—Monday  
Hiking — Games — Sports — Entertainment — Mass Singing — Study Groups — Lectures — Good Food!  
BRING YOUR BLANKETS AND HIKING CLOTHES  
Adm. 50c. Transportation 10c  
2706 Brooklyn Ave., Sunday, 9 a. m., September 3  
All proceeds to THE WESTERN WORKER

## WESL LEAFLET AT LEGION CONVENTION CREATES FUROR

Pasadena Meet Run By Reactionary Leaders

PASADENA, Aug. 18.—The state convention of the American Legion held this week in Pasadena ended with the usual fingoistic resolutions calling for a larger navy, more fortifications and for the direct enlistment of one hundred thousand men now in the Conservation (slave) camps, stating "that those now working in the C. C. C. would be of greater service to the nation if subjected to military discipline."

Leaflets distributed by the Workers Ex-Servicemen's League calling upon the rank and file to repudiate the leadership and demand the payment of the bonus and against the cut in compensation created a great furor at the convention. The chairman read one of the leaflets and demanded that the workers who distributed them be arrested and punished. He then called for the adoption of a resolution that "the United States should refuse to recognize the Russian Soviet government so long as there are paid Russian agents in this country."

Rank and file protest for the payment of the bonus and full compensation was stifled by the leaders. They merely passed a resolution calling for the granting of hospitalization "to honorably discharged" veterans according to regulation in force March 29, 1933, and only for those "not reasonably able to pay for their own treatment."

## 3000 Oxnard Workers Protest Terror

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 7)  
police on Thursday, who threw gas bombs at the strikers, and arrested and beat six of the strike leaders. The action came as a result of picketing at Mayor Gill's ranch.

The hurling of the gas bomb into the midst of the strikers was followed by the arrest of B. Sales, Mike Flores, Juan Madrid, leaders of the Agricultural Workers Industrial Union. These are still held while the three others have been released.

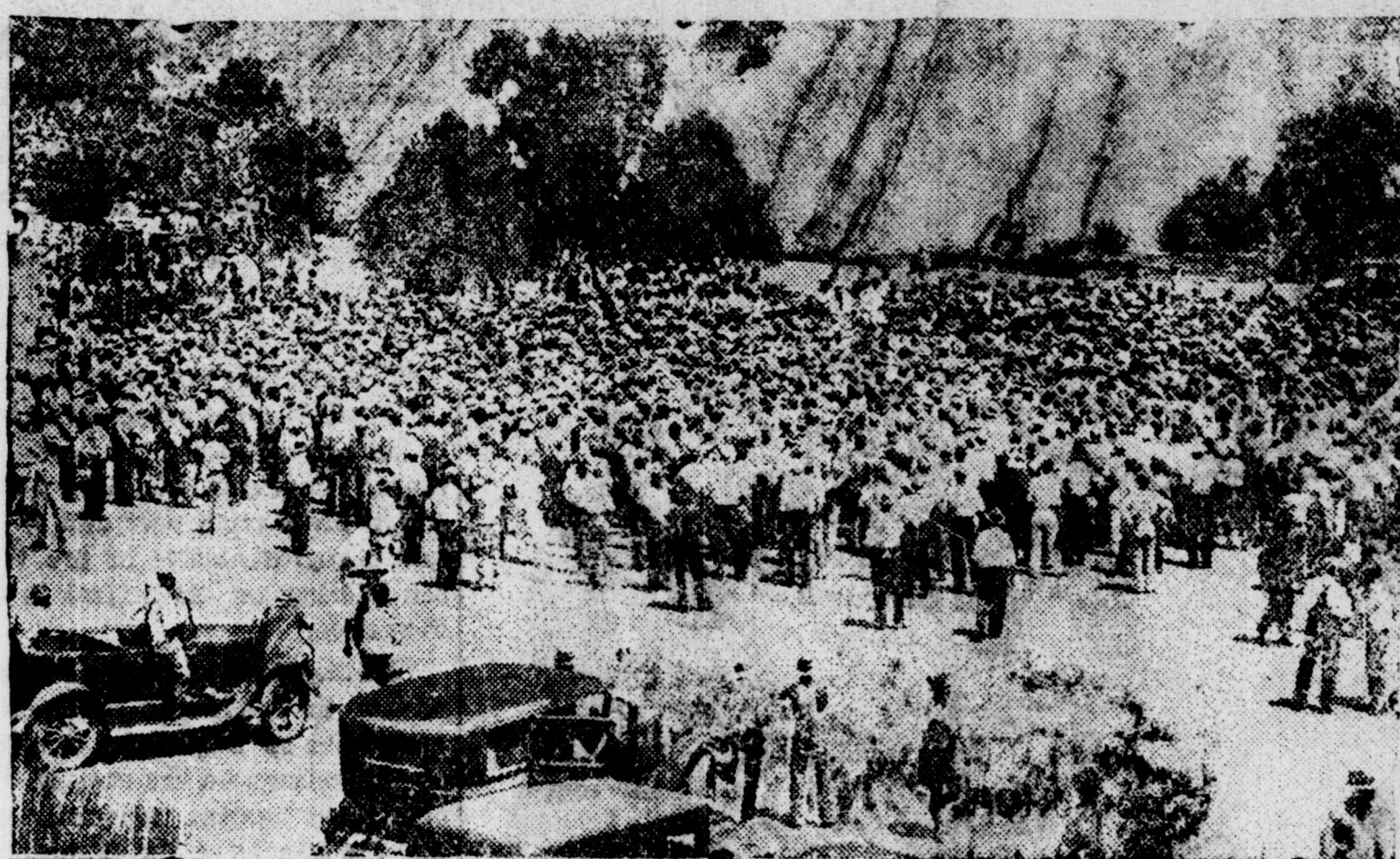
Today, police armed with bombs and rifles, patrolled the strike area. The strike headquarters was raided and all union material, \$16 in cash, application cards, union books, etc., were seized. This afternoon a cordon was thrown around the headquarters, at 844 A street, by the chief of police and his thugs. From time to time they would march in to the headquarters to look for the leaders. But the workers stick solidly and protect the leaders and give no information to the police.

## SCABS TAKEN OFF

Jean Rand was also arrested at the hall. The spirit of the workers is very high and another demonstration is called for steps to further spread the strike. In spite of the police attack, all scabs were taken off the field.

The brutality of the police, which is contrasted to the policy of soft soaping and demagoguery, during the earlier stages of the strike, comes as a result of their failure to break the workers away from the Agricultural Workers Industrial Union. The Mexican consul, whose strike-breaking activities were thoroughly exposed at the outset, proved useless. Promises to the strikers that their demands will be considered only on condition that the fighting A. W. I. U. be given up likewise proved futile. The latest is to use an organization called the Mexican Workers Alliance, for strikebreaking purposes. But the workers stand fast, having learnt that only the Agricultural Workers Union is the real representative of the workers, irrespective of nationality and race, and especially encouraged by the gains being won in other strikes.

## 4000 Boo Charity Cut in Los Angeles



Crowd of workers at Griffith Park being appealed to by Earl Jensen, County Welfare Superintendent, to let him "experiment" with their misery by cutting relief work 50%. The cut was met with a one-day strike of all relief workers August 23rd.

## Bosses Fear C. & A. W. I. U.; Form Packers Assn.

By B. RYDELL  
WATSONVILLE, Calif., Aug. 21.—For more than two years the A. F. of L. here has been under the control of the Chamber of Commerce. The locals admit contractors into their organization, and they, acting in direct collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce, dominate the monthly meetings, seeing that the business is discussed to serve the best interests of the bosses.

The same type of line-up is now being continued with the attempted revival of the old Vegetable Packers Association. After the strike of the lettuce field and shed workers last spring under the leadership of the Cannery and Agricultural Workers Industrial Union and viewing the present strike wave in California fields, the bosses saw they had to do something. The meeting called Aug. 11 was the result. Its purpose was to organize a Fruit Packers Association, to be affiliated with the Vegetable Packers.

About 150 were present, including the police "protection." The speakers were John Dicks, secretary and treasurer of the V. P. A., and James Sells, another V. P. A. official. Sells is reported to have been one of the gang of hoodlums who wrecked the hall of the Agricultural Workers Union during their strike, and is in close cooperation with Sears—of the Sears Packing Co.—who organized the raid from the American Legion Hall.

At the meeting Sells declared: "Any Communists trying to speak here will be taken care of by the police," and then attacked the A. W. I. U. Workers asked about the procedure of organization. Dicks stated the union could only be started with the apple packers.

Seven packers could begin it, paying \$3 initiation fees and \$1 each per month as dues. These seven were to act as an executive board and form auxiliary crafts according to the different class of work, at 25c an hour. Contractors were to be brought into the organization. The seven handicapped packers would control the union, serving as agents of the bosses, keeping the workers divided, and drawing up the code of wages for the workers.

ONLY PACKERS  
When one of the workers asked: "What about the field workers?" Dicks, who had been praising Roosevelt, replied that shed work was industrial work, and field work was agricultural, and that the latter is not included in the NRA.

When Dicks began to look among the audience for the packers he could get none. More than half of the crowd had already left the hall, disgusted.

Not till recently had the A. F. of L. tried to do anything about organizing the vegetable and fruit workers. And of course the method is to divide—not including them all together in one industrial union, but separating the shed workers—mostly white Americans—from the field workers, who include mainly Filipino and Mexican.

COMMUNIST PARTY, U. S. A.,  
37 Grove Street,  
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[ ] I want more information about the Party.

[ ] I want to join the Party.

Name.....

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## Scottsboro Mother Tours West

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5)  
as "the most enthusiastic ever held in Seattle," was a mass protest of the workers here against the brutal lynching of three Tuscaloosa Negro boys the day before in the South. Touring the nation, Mrs. Janie Patterson, mother of Heywood Patterson, Moore of the National Committee of the International Labor Defense, and Lester Carter, important defense witness in the Scottsboro case, have spoken in 72 cities, rallying a mass movement for the immediate freedom of the boys.

The meeting was roused to a high pitch of protest following the news of the kidnapping from willing sheriffs, by a Tuscaloosa lynch mob, of Dan Pippin, Hardin and Elmore Clark, and the finding of the bodies of Pippin and Hardin a few hours later, each riddled with twenty-five bullet holes. Clark's body has not yet been found. The boys, framed on a charge of killing a white girl, were being defended by the I. L. D., and the fight to get the sheriff and judge to trial for murder drew a thunderous response from the crowd. The Tuscaloosa lynching brought more sharply the realization of the danger to the Scottsboro boys.

DON'T THROW THIS COPY AWAY. PASS IT TO A FELLOW WORKER.

## Utah Bosses Try To Starve Miners Out of Union

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 2)  
national existence for at least ten years."

These savage attacks on the militant union by the combined forces of the United Mine Workers, Sheriff Bliss of Carbon County, U. S. immigration officers and the relief administration follows immediately after the second victorious strike, led by the N. M. U., at the Mutual mine. For the second time within ten days the Mutual Coal Co. has been forced to comply with all demands of the miners. Following the recent victorious strike there the company tried to avoid some of the provisions of the settlement and brought in non-union members from distant sections while many Mutual miners living in the camp remained without work.

The District Executive Board of the National Miners Union has issued a statement denouncing the effort of Relief Director Henckley to drive the miners into the U. M. W. A., calling for unity of the employed and unemployed workers, and raising demands for increased relief and cash pay for all RFC work, etc. The statement declares emphatically that the N. M. U. will continue to expose the NRA and all moves against the workers.

The victory at Mutual, where the miners have just received their first regular pay day in two years as a result of the strike led by the N. M. U., is having a tremendous effect throughout the Utah coal fields. At Spring Canyon, one of the largest mines in Utah, the miners have presented local demands to the company and are preparing for strike if these demands are refused. Demands will also be presented in other mines immediately.

## Oakland in 4-Month Collection Drive For C. S. Names

OAKLAND, Aug. 20.—Launching on an intensive drive for collecting of signatures for the repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Law, the East Bay section is electing captains for the various cities and will set up tables on the street corners. Committees will visit labor and fraternal organizations, urging their participation in the drive.

The drive is to collect, in the coming four months, the signatures required to fulfill Oakland's 20,000 quota.

## Resents Insult

Dear Comrade Editor:  
There has been circulated about the militant labor movement a rumor that I have become a member or a supporter of the Proletarian Party. This rumor has no foundation. My attitude toward the Communist Party has not changed in the slightest, and I still consider myself a loyal supporter of its policies. KENNETH REXROTH.

## Western Worker

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## WHERE TO GO

ORGANIZATIONS! Get big crowds to your affairs. Advertise them here. New rates—7c a line, in advance!

INTERNATIONAL WORKERS ORDER, NORTH. CALIF. PICNIC, Sunday, Aug. 27, Peninsula Beach. Adm. 25c. Trucks leave 1740 O'Farrell St., 9 a. m. Round trip, 20c. Or take Car No. 40 and get off at Howard Ave., Burlingame.

14th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION of the C. P., Sept. 2nd at 1223 Fillmore st. Watch for further details. KEEP DATE OPEN.

SCANDINAVIAN WORKERS CLUB, OAKLAND, meet. at Workers Center, 22nd and Grove, 1st and 2nd Fridays in the month, at 8 P. M.

A DANCE and entertainment will be held at Equality Hall, 143 Alhambra st., Aug. 25th, 8 p. m. All funds to go to the Victims of Hitler's Fascism. Adm. 15c. Anti-Fascist Committee.

EXTRA! EXTRA! MARINE WORKERS DANCE—SAT. NITE, AUG. 26th, 8 p. m. A good entertainment with Workers Theatre; eats and good music. Everybody come and support Marine Workers Hall Fund. Adm. 25c, Unem. 5c, 1223 Fillmore.

## Build the Union and Party On Ranches

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 6)  
The NRA administrators are now seriously worried and are even talking of devising some way for tying the agricultural workers to the enslaving act. But the workers at the Tagus Ranch, in the pear fields and others, are learning that only an organized struggle brings real gains. It is through such struggle that wage increases have been forced even in many parts not directly effected by the strikes.

The strike shattered all opinions that agricultural workers will not organize or struggle. In Oxnard, where 1200 are on strike, gas bombs and arrest of the leaders did not break the ranks, but was answered by a huge demonstration. Evictions and terror failed to break the Tulare strike. The agricultural workers are in fact giving an example to the workers of the other industries in the state.

## FAKERS BEING DEFEATED

The workers have likewise demonstrated that they will not be fooled any longer by nationalist fakers. At Oxnard and Tulare the Mexican Consul was exposed at the outset, and could not betray the workers. Only in Salinas is the strike leadership in the hands of Filipino nationalists, and only when the workers unite with the Agricultural Workers Industrial Union, which represents all workers irrespective of nationality or race, will the struggle be successful. The members of the A. W. I. U. are fast winning the rank and file away from the misleaders.

The most important problem before the Agricultural workers, especially in the strike regions, is to build the union. Unless there is a union, that is active and alert, gains won will be snatched away at the first opportunity. Unless the workers are united by a union the boss can take advantage of different nationalities and races to divide the workers. People advocating national divisions among the workers must be driven out as the worst enemies.

## SHOULD BUILD PARTY

Another very important task before the agricultural workers is to build Communist Party Units on the ranches. It is the Communists that lead the strikes, and are the most active. The Communist Party is appealing especially to the most active workers in the fields to join the Party. It is the Communist Party Units that will give guidance to the workers, strengthen the union and expose the boss agents that are always trying to disorganize the ranks of the workers.

Workers in the Agricultural Fields! At this moment there is a better opportunity to build a union than ever before. A powerful union in the state will mean that the standard of living for at least a quarter of a million workers in the fields will be increased. It means that workers will not have to work for as little as 10 cents per hour, live in filthy camps and be forced to work 10 and 12 hours per day. Workers would not be left penniless after a season is over, and compelled to apply to the hated charities. You would not have to spend weeks and months in the jungles, waiting until the season starts so you may get a few weeks work. The grower would hire through the union and there would be no discrimination.

A strong union would mean that YOU would be living at least as the city worker with an average standard.

You see how workers who have gone out on strike won big increases. Those are only indications what can be accomplished in all parts of the state. So let us spread the strike and build a powerful union!

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## A CALL TO ACTION!!!

Are you a reader of this paper?

Are you a Western Worker Agent?

Are you a member of a workers organization?

Are you in the fight for bettering the workers conditions?

IF YOU ARE THEN YOU REALIZE THAT THE WESTERN WORKER IS THE ONLY FIGHTING WORKERS PAPER ON THE COAST.

## Then Why Don't You Spread It?

The fact remains that, while struggles of the workers are assuming greater proportions than ever; while the capitalist press lies to a greater degree than ever on the Soviet Union, on the "coming prosperity," on the conditions of the workers, on the strikes, etc., the circulation of our paper has not been advancing as it should.

Workers continue to write us that the Western Worker is improving, but very little is being one to spread it.

We repeat continually that every Party unit must work around some factory, but in very few cases are Western Workers sold at factory gates.

Do you think that we can be content with merely talking, while the bosses act? Do you think we can carry out any part of our program, without building the press, the most essential weapon in our hands?

The best answer to this is the fact that—if any city has its bundle cut off—immediately our agents get panicky and raise funds in some manner to get the paper back, realizing that for the movement to be without the paper is like being without an organizer.

We bring these facts to your attention in an appeal that you take steps now to spread the Western Worker among your friends, neighbors and shopmates.

## WESTERN WORKER AGENTS!

We will publish in this section of the paper all advances that cities make towards spreading it. But we will also publish the cases that show where the work is being neglected, mishandled, or otherwise retarded. If you, a responsible agent, are not carrying through correctly the work for building the Western Worker you are thereby depriving many workers of the opportunity of getting the paper. YOU ARE THEREBY HOLDING DOWN THE CIRCULATION. If the paper does not appear on the streets, meetings and factories, the workers in your city should know why. You are responsible to them.

Communist Party Sections, Units, Workers Organizations and all Agents of the Western Worker! See immediately how you stand on the Western Worker.

Is your account paid up?

Is there a functioning Agent?

Where and how are the papers sold?

Are expired subs being visited for renewal?

Act immediately. But don't be satisfied with a little activity here and there. Bear in mind that at this stage making no progress is as bad as going backwards!

## Editorial Column

### "BUT IF IT DOESN'T I WILL BE THE LAST"

When told that if the NRA proves successful, he will be regarded as the greatest president the U. S. had, Roosevelt is reported to have stated, "Yes, and if it does not prove successful, I'll be the last president."

This is an admission that the experiences during the last few years have so shaken the confidence of the masses in capitalism, which Roosevelt represents, that it may not survive for another presidential term. However painful this may sound to the upholders of capitalism, and as much as this may mean to revolutionary workers that the overthrow of capitalism is near, the president did not tell the whole truth.

The fact remains that although the NRA program of trying to pull capitalism out of a crisis may prove a failure, as it undoubtedly will, and the conditions of the workers and small farmers, will be worse, yet another important factor decides if capitalism will be overthrown—namely, a Communist Party, capable of winning, organizing and leading the majority of the workers to carry through this overthrow. Increased misery and oppression of the working masses will not of itself bring about the end of capitalism. We have seen during the crisis to what depths conditions of workers can degrade if they are not given leadership for struggle.

Let us see what our foremost leader, Comrade Stalin, has to say on this point. The following is from a speech he made before a committee taking up the situation in the American Communist Party, in May, 1929, when American capitalism seemed all powerful, and when the workers seemed satisfied to maintain it. He said:

I think, comrades, that the moment is not far off, when a revolutionary crisis will develop in America. And when a revolutionary crisis develops in America it will be the beginning of the end of world capitalism. It is imperative that the Communists should be capable and fully trained to meet this historic moment and lead the coming struggles in the U. S. For this, comrades, we must prepare with all our strength, with all means. For this it is necessary to improve and bolshevise our party.

Just as Comrade Stalin predicted the economic crisis, so he predicts a revolutionary crisis. That means a crisis when the workers, poor-farmers and many middle class elements no longer see any hope under capitalism, and are challenging its very existence. This is precisely what we have not yet come to, and will not until, as Comrade Stalin says, we build a powerful Bolshevik Party, enjoying the confidence of the masses, capable of leading them for the historic act.

Roosevelt is aware of this. That is why his policy aims at using the A. F. of L. and the Socialist Party in an effort to isolate the Communists from the workers. The NRA is not the last resort, as Roosevelt's statement implies. Part of his policy is the greatest war preparation program in the history of the country. War is another way out for capitalism—if the workers permit it.

Communists therefore have nothing in common with those who only see the objective forces—who think that the masses "must get hungry enough" before they learn. On the contrary, the Party leads struggles for the immediate needs of the workers, and every bit of relief, increase in wages and other gains won through struggles led by our Party means that the masses learn how to struggle and who their vanguard is—who will eventually lead them to put an end to the capitalist misery altogether.

So to hasten the moment means leading more strikes and similar struggles, building our revolutionary organizations and bringing more workers into the ranks of our Party.

### HIGH PRICES, SALES TAX, NO WAGE RISE

Secretary of Labor Perkins, in her report for the month of July, announces that while retail prices of food products have advanced by 8 1/3%, payrolls advanced by only 7.9%.

This is the first time that the administration admits that payrolls are not even keeping up with the rise in prices. Further on in her statement she admits that there was a decrease of employment in the retail group by 4.7%. Increased buying should show an increase in the number of workers employed in the retail establishments, certainly not a decrease.

An analyses of her own figures shows that the discrepancy is even greater than it seems, and that the new Secretary of Labor is an old horse in the art of using figures to deceive the masses.

In the first place it should be remembered that the figures are based on a survey of only 1800 manufacturing establishments. Industries making the worst showing, the mining, building, agriculture, lumber, shipping, transportation, etc., are not included.

The period covered by the report is the month when the president made his great appeal for increases in wages and many manufacturers announced fake wage increases, but few would report the truth if wages were cut. The labor department figures never were reliable since they are based on what the manufacturer reports.

But most important of all is the fact that it was during that month that in some cases production was increased, only because a market was anticipated. The result, however, was increased stocks and higher prices. Much of this artificially stimulated production is already receding, as it becomes evident that most of the upturn is limited to the newspaper headlines. The consequence is that the workers' wages buy less in July than in June.

Here in California the bosses, not content with this, have decreased the purchasing power of the workers through the Sales Tax, by nominally 2 1/4% but in practice by as much as 7%. The income tax, which would mainly hit the rich, was vetoed by the corporation-controlled governor.

The reported increase in the number on payrolls does not really represent increased employment. In many cases a reduction of hours meant a corresponding decrease in the wages, while a few new workers were put to work. The plan is only a continuation of Hoover's stagger system.

Gen. Hugh Johnson is issuing high sounding statements against "chislers" and profiteers, promising that action will be taken against them. But these are only to give workers hopes, so as not to resort to strikes.

The above are only introductory features of the NRA. As the codes are being adopted, still higher prices are set through agreements.

These are the facts that Secretary of Labor Perkins is trying to hide. The worker who sees his real wages dwindling will not continue to fall for the NRA ballyhoo, but will add his strength to the present strike wave—will fight the robber Sales Tax—will join fighting unions. That is the only force that make for higher wages.

## The Agricultural Workers Answer!



## FORMER SECRETARY OF SOCIALIST PARTY, L. A., JOINS COMMUNISTS

Fellow Socialists and Yipsels: When I joined the Socialist Party two years ago, it was not long until I realized the futility of workers following such petty-bourgeois misleaders as Hillquit, Thomas and Packard. But like many of you comrades, I was fooled into believing that Busick's "militancy" was genuine and that there was a determined organized opposition to the bourgeois fakery aiming toward making the S. P. a real workers' party. Now after four months in office as Los Angeles County Executive Secretary and after visiting party locals as far east as Chicago I am convinced that there is no real militant movement worthy of a worker's support except the Communist Party.

While I was in office as Secretary I had excellent opportunities to learn what Busick's policy of trying to make deals with boss politicians. I got a bellyfull of this, however, in May, 1932, during the Porter Recall Campaign. Busick at this time told me that he was negotiating with Doctor Haynes of the Power Bureau for an "anonymous" donation to the party in exchange for the S. P. not running a mayoralty candidate, which might jeopardize the boss candidate, Dempster's chances of election. He said he was trying at the same time to get the same kind of a deal from Porter to run a candidate. Haynes called his bluff and Porter would not come through, so Busick was forced to make feverish preparations for a campaign. Of course he did not let us know about these details until the campaign was about finished and as you know several of us worked day and night to put on this over-night campaign.

Busick had to have a special edition of the "New Era" for the campaign and to finance this he got each side of the Sharkey Oil Control Bill campaign to buy an ad at \$100 each. A fight ensued over how the money was to be spent. Hardy, the editor, winning that it be applied on the paper bill, whereas Busick wanted \$50 to apply on his salary as former editor. After this fight Busick suddenly found that Hardy, whom he had brought into the party and had elected editor, was a faker, etc. Packard seized the opportunity to precipitate a battle in the State Executive Committee, resulting in Busick losing

### Exposes Fakers Who Pose As Militants and Appeals to Sincere Rank and Filers To Do Likewise

control of that body and resigning in disgust. Busick then got even by kicking Packard's supporters off the C. E. C. We had just opened the new headquarters, after much hard work, raising funds and pledges.

We had just started the Labor College and in spite of the mess he had gotten us into, Busick had to go to the National Convention to "expose," as he termed it, the Hillquit fakers.

## YOUNG SOCIALIST SUSPENDED FOR ACTIVE PART IN MILITANT FIGHT

We print below a statement submitted by a member of the Young Peoples Socialist League, who faces expulsion for uniting with Communists in the anti-war activity, and for participation in the millinery workers strike:

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE YOUNG PEOPLES SOCIALIST LEAGUE:

COMRADES: The State Executive Committee has declared me suspended from the Young Peoples Socialist League without voice or vote, for a period of two months, pending further investigation of my activity with Communists.

Every member of the YPSL must understand the reasons for such arbitrary actions on the part of our leadership—its basic causes and its inevitable consequences.

Charges when brought down to actual facts amount to two things: My activities in the union of my trade, the Needle Trades Workers Industrial Union, and participation in the United Front Anti-War Conference.

In the name of what working class principles do these "leaders" of working class youth bring up on charges a Yipsel for belonging to the only militant union in her trade?

The Needle Trades Workers Industrial Union has proven through struggle that it is a militant union fighting for and in the interests of the working class.

While the leadership sets back and engages in petty discussions, the cause of the workers is being consistently fought by the Needle Trades Union. Even at this time in the face of brutal police terror,

manhandling of women and beating up of men on the picket line, a strike is being waged in a millinery shop under the leadership of the N. T. W. I. U.

Instead of suspending a member for being active in a strike, those members of the State Executive Committee, who by their silence and inactivity, have tacitly sabotaged the strike, these Yipsel "leaders" should be severely condemned.

The YPSL leadership charges me with anti-war activity with the Communists. Who is accused and who are the accusers? It is the thinking, serious elements in the YPSL who must charge the leadership of the YPSL with not participating in this United Front activity, with sabotaging this United Front, with betrayal of their class.

The "left-wing" apologizers for the leadership say, "That is all very well, but our National Executive Committee has a policy which we must follow no matter how much we are in favor of United Front activity. We are a disciplined organization."

When the formal discipline of an organization clashes with the duty to the working class something must give. The duty to the working class will win out.

Our "leadership" would gladly sidetrack the entire principled discussion into the track of barren organizational formula. The question is too big to be handled in this lawyer-like manner. It has to be handled in a working class manner. Whether or not the National Executive Committee said this or that sinks to insignificance along side the question of loyalty to the

## International Events and Western Workers

### Langston Hughes, Negro Proletarian Poet, Interviewed By Western Worker Representative; Tells Why He Was Arrested and Deported From Japan; and of National Minorities in Soviet Union

"The extreme police terror thru-out Japan has not stopped the revolutionary working class movement there," Langston Hughes, famous Negro proletarian poet and writer, told a representative of the Western Worker on his arrival in San Francisco.

"On May 1st the workers demonstrated in Tokyo and other cities, and again on August 1st they held open meetings on the streets, demonstrating against imperialism war and the attacks on the Chinese people."

Hughes, who went to the Soviet Union with a group to assist in making a movie on Negro oppression in the South of the United States, spent a year in the USSR, before returning by way of Japan. In Tokyo he was arrested by the police, his baggage searched, and he was grilled for a whole day before being "advised" to leave the country at once.

"All workers suspected of being

radicals, or those believed to be sympathetic, are constantly watched. The jails are full. But the movement still goes on. Neither has the recent arrest of 30 girl students at the Tokyo University for anti-imperialist sympathies, and their being third-degreed daily for a month, achieved the end the police sought, the stopping of the student movement."

### Will Speak in S. F.



Langston Hughes, famous Negro proletarian poet, will speak at a mass meeting at California Hall, Wednesday, at 8 p. m., August 30, telling of conditions of the workers in Japan, Shanghai and what he saw in the Soviet Union. Hughes went to the U. S. S. R. with a group to make a movie of Negro oppression in the U. S. A., and made a special study of national minorities in the Soviet Union.

The meeting is under the auspices of the WESTERN WORKER.

Passing through Tokyo, I was there two days. The first I was under arrest. The second, until my boat actually passed out the harbor, I was constantly trailed by two plain clothesmen. This happens to all aliens whom they suspect, and Japanese who have gone to the USSR are arrested on their return.

"Despite this surveillance, protest meetings and mass meetings continue. Being a writer, I was interested in the workers theatre. At the Tsukiji Theatre workers plays are presented. The script for these plays must be passed on by the police who send men to every performance, and if the speeches depart by a single word from the original script, the policemen jump up and stop the play. This is, of course, to prevent any propaganda speeches being injected. Nevertheless, the performances, as happened at one I saw, often end as mass meetings protesting some attack on the workers. And always, the plays are so written that their class struggle content and organizational effect can not be missed by the audience.

"In China, particularly in Shanghai, the fiercest Kuomintang terror rages. There bands of gangsters, under orders from the Nanking government agents murder and kidnap not only leaders of the working class but any active members. There is in this the desperation inspired by the realization that since the complete sell-out to Japan, they have lost what leadership they had over a large portion of the workers previously. Shanghai is an armed camp, with American marines, Japanese marines, Sikh Indian policemen for Britain, and the Chinese police everywhere. Everyone is constantly being searched on the streets. But the ruthless destruction of the workers quarters, Chapel, is something they cannot explain away. It is there to be seen every day, smouldering hate in the hearts of the Chinese workers.

"The close cooperation of the imperialist powers with the Kuomintang is not hidden. The gangsters of the latter kidnap, kill and terrorize within the confines of the International Settlement with impunity."

In Nanking, Hughes visited Paul and Gertrude Ruegg in prison. The Rueggs, leading members of the Pan-Pacific Secretariat, whose executions were stopped by worldwide workers demonstrations, have been kept in Kuomintang dungeon cells in practically solitary confinement for several months. "Three hunger strikes have won for them a slight improvement in their food and material conditions," Hughes stated. "They have begun a prison library and can now receive letters. Yes, even letters from America."

Hughes is preparing a book on what he saw in the USSR, giving particular emphasis to the success of the Soviet policy regarding national minorities, and how all vestiges of Jim Crowism have disappeared in the short period of ten years.

"But you have no space for anything on that in this issue, with all the strike news in California. But one incident in Turkestan will show the difference between there and the oppression of the Southern states. On the collective farms, owned and run by the workers formerly Jim Crowed, they stop working cotton in the afternoon to have tea in the fields and hold a short class in reading and discussion of political matters. Can you imagine that happening to the Negroes in Alabama?"

On Wednesday, Aug. 30 at California Hall, Langston Hughes will speak at a mass meeting in San Francisco being arranged by the Western Worker, at which time he will have all the "space" he needs to tell of the freedom of the "colored" peoples under the Soviet system. And it will be worth hearing.

Ben Boots, the sixth of these young workers, was held for the San Diego police, who took him away to serve a one-year sentence for helping the unemployed council turn on gas and water for an unemployed worker.

Those released were Ethel Dell, who received over ten thousand votes at the recent primary election as candidate for the Board of Education; Meyer Baylin, Jess Shapiro, Ann Davies,

## MOONEY RUNNERS RELEASED AFTER 5 MONTHS IN JAIL

Ben Boots Seized By San Diego Police For Water Fight

Five of the six "Free Tom Mooney" runners, who staged a spectacular demonstration at the 1932 Olympic games were released from Lincoln Heights jail this week, after serving about five months of their six months sentence.

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## S.F. Supervisors Decide to Whitewash Relief Hearing Charges

### UHL MAKES DEMAGOGIC APPEAL FOR JOBLESS VOTE

After hearings on the graft and rottenness in the San Francisco relief administration, over a period lasting more than two months, the San Francisco Supervisors, before an overflowing chamber, decided: "To take the matter under advisement, and

"That a committee composed of the three presidents of the University of California, Stanford and the University of San Francisco, who have been investigating the relief system in San Francisco, bring in their findings as soon as possible."

It was McSheehy, the Supervisor who for a long time succeeded in fooling many of the unemployed that he is the "peoples man" that made and argued for these motions, while hundreds from the audience hissed and booed him. When he turned to the workers pleading that they listen to him, he was met by a still greater storm of catcalls.

The supervisors were by no means united on the action to be taken, in face of an exposure that

stirred the entire city, as Gallagher made the motion that the entire findings be turned over to the grand jury. A debate established that either move would be "passing the buck" and quashing the whole matter. The charges which the board was so anxious to whitewash, include: giving the jobless below standard products; discrimination; terrorism against workers; graft; huge payroll of favorites, etc.

### WOLLENBERG OUT

Director of Relief Wollenberg, finding things entirely too hot for him during the sessions, in a gesture decided not to appear at any further hearings. The capitalist press likewise helped him by not printing a word of the actual charges, but giving wide publicity to his having been hit on the jaw by a former employee in his apparatus.

During the last session further facts on the entire relief racket were disclosed by Stephenson,

Superintendent of the Durant School, also fired charity employee. He disclosed a long list of those on the charity payroll, also on the payroll of the Community Chest, and on the city payroll, netting for some as much as three hundred per month. It was likewise proven that many on the long list were relatives of Wollenberg and of officials in the city government. The total paid directly to the 201 on Wollenberg's list was disclosed to be \$47,000 per month.

Stephenson further gave facts proving that relief workers, ticketed to work at St. Mary's Park, a city project, were switched over on privately owned estates.

A few hours of this and the supervisors were convinced that it better stop or the worst scandal in the history of San Francisco would develop. A motion to cut the investigation was passed, although Uhl, political boss of the opposition machine in the city, was given the

floor. Many in the crowd, who considered that because Uhl has been engineering the prosecution of the relief administration, will say something, applauded when he was introduced, but were soon badly disappointed. He made a feeble attempt to point to "irregularities" in the relief administration, and then expressed his opinion that now everything will be alright since the federal government will control relief. There was very little applause when he finished.

### REFUSE TO HEAR WORKERS

The workers from several organizations that were there, expecting that their evidence would be considered, saw that Uhl's supporters did not insist that the hearing go on so that the cases of the many families whom Wollenberg refused to place on relief, evicted, and discriminated against be heard. When Garrison of the Charity Workers Protective Union, and Silver of the Workers Ex-Servicemen's League

(recently evicted) asked for the floor, police immediately led them out of the chamber, amidst protests from all those present.

The supervisors then proceeded to debate how to most gracefully carry through the whitewash. Gallagher indicated that an election is due soon and it would be a far better policy to place the matter before the grand jury, which would make Wollenberg the goat, and clear the rest of the administration, or will reverse the charges against Uhl. "Let the chips fall where they may," he said. The majority, however, thought, the new arrangement with federal supervision, will be a blessing. The real fact is, that the national administration believes that many more could be thrown off the relief rolls. In many cities local politicians often fear that cutting many off relief will hit back at them directly at the coming election, while the federal government, for the time being, does not fear

such obstacles. In addition to the illusion, the supervisors ridicule the jobless of San Francisco, by telling them to wait until the honorable professors, who for four months have been "investigating" what the jobless eat, will bring in their findings. They will most likely show the workers how to live on the rotten products dumped into their mouths.

However, the Charity Workers Union and the Unemployed Councils, and the workers in San Francisco, will not fall for this bait. The expose strengthened the fight for better relief, the removal of Wollenberg, and proved the need for Unemployment Insurance.

Likewise the hearings served as a very effective means for exposing the other political machine in the city, under Uhl's leadership. The workers saw that the entire proceedings were engineered in preparation for the next election. The workers who had testimony were kept out.